

**Representative Stephanie Gricius** proposes the following substitute bill:

**LANE FILTERING AMENDMENTS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Gricius**

Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends the Traffic Code in relation to lane filtering.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ clarifies that lane filtering is permitted on an off-ramp.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**41-6a-704**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 219

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **41-6a-704** is amended to read:

**41-6a-704. Overtaking and passing vehicles proceeding in same direction.**

(1) As used in this section:



26 (a) (i) "Off-ramp" means the portion of a roadway that connects a freeway or limited  
27 access highway to an intersection.

28 (ii) "Off-ramp" does not include the portion of a roadway that connects two controlled  
29 access highways, two limited access highways, or a controlled access highway and a limited  
30 access highway.

31 (b) (i) "On-ramp" means the portion of a roadway that connects an intersection to a  
32 freeway or limited access highway.

33 (ii) "On-ramp" does not include the portion of a roadway that connects two controlled  
34 access highways, two limited access highways, or a controlled access highway and a limited  
35 access highway.

36 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) (a) Except as provided in Section 41-6a-718, on any highway:

37 (i) the operator of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same  
38 direction shall:

39 (A) except as provided under Section 41-6a-705, promptly pass the overtaken vehicle  
40 on the left at a safe distance; and

41 (B) enter a right-hand lane or the right side of the roadway only when safely clear of  
42 the overtaken vehicle;

43 (ii) the operator of an overtaken vehicle:

44 (A) shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle; and

45 (B) may not increase the speed of the vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking  
46 vehicle.

47 (b) The exemption from the minimum speed regulations for a vehicle operating on a  
48 grade under Section 41-6a-605 does not exempt the vehicle from promptly passing a vehicle as  
49 required under Subsection ~~[(1)(a)(i)(A)]~~ (2)(a)(i)(A).

50 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) On a highway having more than one lane in the same direction, the operator of  
51 a vehicle traveling in the left general purpose lane:

52 (a) shall, upon being overtaken by another vehicle in the same lane, yield to the  
53 overtaking vehicle by moving safely to a lane to the right; and

54 (b) may not impede the movement or free flow of traffic in the left general purpose  
55 lane.

56 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) An operator of a vehicle traveling in the left general purpose lane that has a

57 vehicle following directly behind the operator's vehicle at a distance so that less than two  
 58 seconds elapse before reaching the location of the operator's vehicle when space is available for  
 59 the operator to yield to the overtaking vehicle by traveling in the right-hand lane is prima facie  
 60 evidence that the operator is violating Subsection [~~(2)~~] (3).

61 [~~(4)~~] (5) The provisions of Subsection [~~(2)~~] (3) do not apply to an operator of a vehicle  
 62 traveling in the left general purpose lane when:

- 63 (a) overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction in  
 64 accordance with Subsection [~~(1)(a)(i)~~] (2)(a)(i);
- 65 (b) preparing to turn left or taking a different highway or an exit on the left;
- 66 (c) responding to emergency conditions;
- 67 (d) avoiding actual or potential traffic moving onto the highway from an acceleration  
 68 or merging lane; or
- 69 (e) following the direction of a traffic-control device that directs the use of a designated  
 70 lane.

71 [~~(5)~~] (6) An individual may engage in lane filtering only when the following conditions  
 72 exist:

- 73 (a) the individual is operating a motorcycle;
- 74 (b) the individual is:
  - 75 (i) on a roadway that is divided into two or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same
  - 76 direction of travel; or
  - 77 (ii) on an off-ramp that is divided into two or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same
  - 78 direction of travel;
  - 79 (c) the individual is:
    - 80 (i) on a roadway with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less; or
    - 81 (ii) on an off-ramp;
    - 82 (d) the individual is not on an on-ramp;
    - 83 [~~(d)~~] (e) the vehicle being overtaken in the same lane is stopped;
    - 84 [~~(e)~~] (f) the motorcycle is traveling at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less; and
    - 85 [~~(f)~~] (g) the movement may be made safely.
- 86 [~~(6)~~] (7) A violation of Subsection [~~(1), (2), or (5)~~] (2), (3), or (6) is an infraction.

87 Section 2. **Effective date.**

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This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.